

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

PRESSENTED

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF THE LATE

GEORGE H. NAPHEYS, A.M., M.D.,

WITH

THE OPINIONS OF VARIOUS EMINENT CON-  
TEMPORARIES ON THE VALUE OF HIS  
WORKS TO THE PUBLIC.



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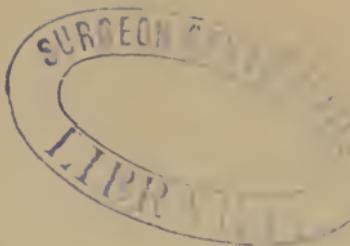
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[SEE THE APPENDIX.]

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## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

OF

# GEORGE HENRY NAPHEYS, M.D.

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Were man's life measured by his deeds, as the poet suggests, how brief would be the long years of many an oetogenarian, and how extended the short span which has been allotted to not a few of the world's famous heroes!

This oft-repeated thought strikes us forcibly in considering the biography of the subject of this sketch. Closing his life at an age when most professional men are but beginning theirs, he had already studied broadly, had traveled widely over two continents, had gained credit and fame by the sword and the pen, and had amassed a fund of erudition and experience which the more lethargic lives of most men fail to approach after twice his length of days. It is eminently appropriate that a record of his busy career should be attached to the works on which his celebrity is chiefly based, and in which he most conspicuously displays that

command of language and happy facility of imparting instruction for which he was so remarkable.

GEORGE HENRY NAPHEYS (pronounced Nā'feež, the ā as in *fate*) was born in the city of Philadelphia, March 5th, 1842. His parents died while he was still at a tender age, and he was placed with some relatives who resided in the city. From early years he was characterized by quick perceptions and a retentive memory. In the Philadelphia High School, from which he received the academic degree of Master of Arts, he was considered the best scholar in his class, a marked distinction in view of the large numbers which attend that institution. Besides acquiring the usual studies of the High School, he gave considerable time to phonography, in which he became so skilled that he could report any ordinary speaker with entire accuracy. This subsequently proved a great advantage to him in his medical career.

After his graduation he repaired to Hartford, Conn., where he was offered and accepted the position of private secretary to a gentleman of prominence in the literary and religious world.

Thus he was engaged when the civil war broke out. With his natural warmth of feeling and strong emotions, he entered the fray among the first, and went out as Lieutenant, and subsequently as Captain, Company F, 10th Connecticut State Volunteers. The regiment was enlisted for nine months, and was dispatched to Louisiana, General

Banks then commanding the Department. It participated in engagements near Baton Rouge and on the Red River, in which Captain Napheys always acquitted himself with bravery and credit.

At the time the regiment was disbanded, an early preference for medical subjects led him to devote a year to the preliminary studies of that profession, but not waiting the full period required for a degree, he was appointed assistant medical officer on the U. S. steamer Mingo, of the South Atlantic Blockading Squadron. On her he passed a number of months, cruising off the coast of the Carolinas and Georgia, and ascended the St. John river.

These active duties prevented him from receiving his degree of Doctor of Medicine until after the close of the war, when, in 1866, his diploma was conferred upon him by the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, one of the most renowned institutions of our country.

After graduation, he opened an office in Philadelphia, and connected himself with the clinics which are held at the College for the purpose of supplying medicine and medical advice to the poor gratuitously, as well as for giving students an opportunity of witnessing various forms of disease. The practical experience he gained in this manner was considerable, and his natural ability soon recommended him to the authorities of the institution, who appointed him Chief of Medical Clinie of the College, a position he held for several years.

One of the advantages of this post was that it brought him into constant communion with many eminent medical men, and rendered him practically acquainted with their treatment of disease. His skill in phonography enabled him to take abundant notes of their lectures, and this led to his early connection with the periodical literature of the profession. Most of the reports he drew up were published in the *Medical and Surgical Reporter*, a weekly journal, devoted to medical science, published in Philadelphia. The series of reports commenced in April, 1866, and continued, with slight interruptions, until June, 1870. They are characterized by a clear and correct style, and a manifestly thorough grasp of the numerous topics treated.

The success which these ephemeral writings obtained turned his thoughts in the direction of authorship. His tastes and associations led him to employ his powers in two directions: first, in preparing for the general public a series of works which would acquaint them with anatomy, physiology, hygiene, sanitary science, nursing, and the management of disease, to the extent that intelligent general readers can and ought to know about these subjects; and secondly, in writing for professional men several treatises on the means of alleviating and curing diseases.

In the prosecution of the first mentioned of these plans, he was early impressed with the utter absence of any treatise on the hygiene of the sexual life in either sex, written in the proper spirit by a scientific man. The field had been

left to quacks or worse, who, to serve their own base ends, scattered inflammatory and often indecent pamphlets over the land ; or else, had one or more of the points been handled by reputable writers, it was in such a vague and imperfect manner that the reader gained little benefit from the perusal. While all agreed that a sound treatise on these topics was most desirable, it had been openly averred that it could not be written in a proper style for the general public.

Strong in the conviction that pure motives, literary tact, and the requisite scientific knowledge qualified him to undertake this difficult task, Dr. Napheys prepared, in the early months of 1869, his work on "The Physical Life of Woman." Proceeding with caution, he first submitted the MSS. to some professional friends, and profited by their suggestions. After the work was in type, and before publication, he sent complete copies to a number of gentlemen, eminent as medical teachers, clergymen, educators, and literateurs. Their replies left him in no doubt but that he had succeeded even beyond his anticipations. Almost unanimously the opinions were complimentary in the highest degree, and evidently written after a close examination of the book. As many of these have been printed to accompany the work, in the last and previous editions, it is needless to do more in this connection than to say that they were penned by such judges as Dr. W. A. Hammond, late Surgeon-General U. S. Army ; Dr. Harvey L. Byrd, Professor in the Medical Department of Washington University, Md. ;

Dr. Edwin M. Snow, Health Officer of the City of Providence, R. I.; Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Rev. Horace Bushnell, D.D., Rev. George A. Crooke, D.D., D.C.L., and others.

On its appearance, the work was received with enthusiasm by both the medical press and the public. While a few journals and individuals were inclined to condemn it and censure the author, the intelligent and the pure-minded, on all sides, recognized in him the only writer who had yet appeared able to treat these delicate subjects with the dignity of science and the straightforwardness necessary for popular instruction.

Satisfied that he had chosen the proper exercise for his talents, he composed and placed in the hands of his publisher, the following year, his not less extraordinary work, "The Transmission of Life," a treatise addressed to the male, as his previous one had been to the female sex. It was dedicated to the late Rev. John Todd, so well known for his interest in young men, and his "Student's Manual" and other works addressed to them. He accepted the dedication and addressed the author a letter, in which occurs the following high compliment to his work: "I am surprised at the extent and accuracy of your reading; the judiciousness of your positions and results; the clear, unequivocal, yet delicate and appropriate language used; and the amount of valuable information conveyed." Similar expressions poured in from many other distinguished critics, as, for in-

stance, Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College; the Rev. Henry Clay Trumbull, the Rev. Abner Jackson, President of Trinity College, Hartford, etc.

In the same year (1870) he brought out the first edition of his "Modern Therapeutics," a technical work, addressed to physicians. This was enlarged in successive editions, until in its present form, as continued by other hands in its latest editions, it comprises two parts of 600 pages each. Although the author claimed little other originality in this work than the selection and arrangement of known facts, yet in these respects he displayed the strongly practical and original turn of his mind. As a student of the art of Therapeutics in large hospitals, clinics, and dispensaries, he had convinced himself that it is not by experiments on lower animals, nor yet on the human body in health, that the physician can attain the glorious power of alleviating pain and curing disease; it is only through the daily combat with sickness, by the bedside and in the consulting room. Chemistry and physiology, he believed, could teach but little in this branch; observation and experience everything. Hence, in his work on Therapeutics he announced himself as "aiming at a systematic analysis of all current and approved means of combating disease," selecting his formulæ and therapeutical directions from the most eminent living physicians of all nations.

This work was most favorably received by medical men; and, edited and revised by competent hands, continues to be

regarded as one of the most valuable works in American medical literature. The unanimous opinion of the leading medical journals, as well as of its numerous purchasers, have testified to its real and great worth to the practitioner of medicine.

Having thus established a wide, popular and professional reputation, one which would have guaranteed him a lucrative practice, it would have tempted another, no doubt, to make the most of this opportunity, so rarely granted a young physician. Not so was it with Dr. Napheys. No sooner had the three works mentioned been completed than he sailed for Europe, in order to familiarize himself with the famed schools of learning of the Old World and its rich stores of material for culture. The summer was that of the Franco-German war; and spending most of it in Paris, he was witness of several of the most exciting scenes which attended the dethronement of the Emperor. These he would describe afterwards with a vividness and power of language rarely excelled.

The excitement of the period did not, however, withdraw his attention from the studies he had in view. These were partially indicated in a series of letters he contributed to various periodicals during his absence. While these letters were principally of a scientific character, it is noteworthy how the relations of medicine to the welfare of man always occupied his attention. Thus we find, in one sent from England, June, 1870, a description of the Liverpool Medi-

cal Missionary Society, a charity which combines religious instruction with medical advice; and again, he comments on the popular instruction in hygiene which was supplied at that period to the English workingmen by a committee of competent physicians, organized for that purpose. It was the author's purpose to collect and expand these letters into a volume, but the project was not carried out.

The siege of Paris, which city he left in one of the last trains before the blockade commenced, and the prolongation of the war, induced him to return home. In the United States he found offers from several publishers awaiting him, which would more than occupy him for a full year. There was a new edition of his "Therapeutics" demanded, and a revision of both "The Physical Life of Woman" and "The Transmission of Life." A New England firm urgently pressed him to superintend the production of several hygienic works, and secured him as literary adviser to their house. He assumed the editorship of the "Half-Yearly Compendium of Medical Science," and also of a "Physician's Annual," besides undertaking a number of articles for the periodical press, both scientific and popular.

To this active literary life he devoted the year 1871; but at its close felt more strongly than ever that he must give himself several years of studious quiet, in order to accomplish his best. Refusing, therefore, any further engagements, he sailed for Europe again, late in 1871, and did not return this time until the spring of 1875. In this

period, of more than three years, he visited almost all the principal cities of Europe, and enjoyed the friendship of many eminent men at London, St. Petersburg, Vienna, and Paris. Reading, visiting hospitals, and attending clinics, he accumulated a mass of material which he designed to work up into future literary enterprises.

With these collected stores he returned to the United States early in 1875, and set to work with his wonted energy. A new and much enlarged edition of the "Therapeutics" was sent to press; a "Handbook of Popular Medicine," designed to give, in simple language, the domestic treatment of disease, the rules for nursing the sick, selected receipts for diet and medicinal purposes, and the outlines of anatomy and physiology, was put in the hands of a publisher; a Synopsis of Pharmacy and Materia Medica, a work of enormous labor, was well under way; and other literary projects were actively planned; when, suddenly, the summons came which, in an instant, with the shears of fate, slit the strand of this activity. The rest of the story may be told in the words of the biographer appointed by the Medical Society of the County of Philadelphia to prepare a memoir of his life:—

"While earnestly laboring to prepare for the press his literary collections, he suffered a severe blow by the sudden death of a person to whom he was deeply attached. Over-work and this emotional shock produced a result likely enough to occur in one of his ardent temperament. One

afternoon, while engaged in writing, he fell, unconscious, from his chair, and for several days lay in a very critical condition. On recovering his powers, it was evident his brain had suffered a serious lesion. The old energy and love of labor had completely gone; even the capacity for work seemed absent. Marked melancholy followed, characterized before long by avoidance of friends and the loss of a desire of life. This occurred with increasing force until it led to his death, on July 1, 1876, through some toxic agent, the nature of which was not ascertained.

"Thus early, and thus sadly, terminated a career of unusual brilliancy and promise.

"It is probable that much that he has written will be read with pleasure and instruction by future generations; and the memory of his genial disposition, his entertaining conversation, and earnest sense of professional honor, will long be cherished by those of his contemporaries who enjoyed his friendship."—*Transactions of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania*, vol. xi, p. 720.

Various tributes were paid to his memory by the societies with which he was connected, and by the scientific journals to which he had been a contributor. One of these, after narrating some of the circumstances attending his disease, spoke as follows:—

"Thus did our unfortunate associate close his short but brilliant career. The emotions, the tender sentiments he has described with such a magical pen, he felt himself with

an unmatched keenness. They mastered his whole frame with an intensity surpassing all romance. His descriptions of the passions, descriptions which have been the wonder of thousands, such is their fire and temper, were not rhetorical studies, but the ebullition of a soul sensitive to their lightest breath, and not shunning their wildest tempests.

"The genius which dictated the lines he has left us is not to be judged by the conventionalities which suit the cold temperaments of ordinary men; there is a strong vein of egotism in most devotion; but here was one who felt, 'all is lost, when love is lost.'"

This extract well sets forth the extraordinary depth of his sentiments, and the fervor of his feelings. It may be added that these mental traits were not generally ascribed to him by casual or ordinary associates. He was, in manners and bearing, evidently not one who sought friendships or displayed to the general gaze the current of his thoughts. Consequently, of intimates he had but few, and was considered by those whose intercourse with him was superficial, to be much more of an intellectual than of an emotional type of character.

This impression was doubtless increased by the strongly practical turn of his mind, which is conspicuous in all his works. He was the reverse of a dreamer and had little patience with theorists. In his professional study he always aimed at bringing into the strongest light the utilitarian aspect of medicine, its ameliorating power on humanity, its

real efficacy in preserving or restoring health and limiting human misery. On this his theory of therapeutics was based, and, inspired by the same opinions, he was one of the most earnest advocates of the day of popularizing medical science in all its branches among the masses. In this effort he was at times severely criticised by that class of physicians—and they are by no means extinct—who think that medicine should be wrapped in mystery, and that the people should be kept in ignorance of themselves and of their own physical frailties, to the utmost possible extent. With these learned obscurantists Dr. Napheys had no patience, and naturally found but slight favor. Fortunately, they were in the decided minority, and, we are happy to add, even that minority is daily decreasing.

Of the various learned societies to which he was attached may be mentioned the Philadelphia County Medical Society, the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, and the Gynecological Society of Boston. His election as Corresponding Member to the latter body (which is an association of scientific men who make an especial study of the hygiene and diseases of women) took place shortly after the first publication of the *Physical Life of Woman*, and was meant as a direct tribute of respect to him as the author of that work, thus obtaining for it the testimony of the highest body in that specialty then existing in our land.

The general plan on which Dr. Napheys prepared his sanitary writings was one eminently calculated to reeoncile

those who were most opposed to instructing the general public in such branches. While he confidently believed that vastly more harm than good is done by a prudish concealment of the physiology of sex and its relations to health, he also clearly recognized that such instruction should be imparted at the proper age and under certain limitations; while the general facts common to the species cannot be taught too generally, or made too familiar. Hence, he projected three books, one to be placed in the hands of young women, a second for youths, and a third for a general household book of reading and reference on medicine and hygiene. These three he completed in "*The Physical Life of Woman,*" "*The Transmission of Life,*" and the "*Handbook of Popular Medicine.*"

This plan, he believed, met all the objections to popular medical instruction, at least all well-grounded objections, while at the same time it did away with any necessity for concealing truths important to be known, for fear they should come to the knowledge of those for whom they were not designed, and on whose minds they might have a disturbing tendency.

There can be no doubt but that both the plan and its execution were successful. The many letters he received, filled with thanks from private parties who had gained inestimable knowledge from these works, made rich compensation for the occasional severe strictures he received from

those wedded to ancient ways, and who often condemned without even reading his works.

The intelligent reading public, on whom, after all, the writer must depend for a verdict on his works, were unanimous in his favor. They bought them in quantities, and the writer of his life in the *Transactions of the Pennsylvania State Medical Society*, above quoted, who wrote in 1877, estimates that by that time over *a quarter of a million* copies had been printed and sold. Translations were made into the German, and several editions pirated and printed in Canada and England. In fact, the works may now be considered to rank as classics in the language, and many years must go by before another such series can be written, on topics of this nature, with equal delicacy of touch and accuracy of knowledge.



## APPENDIX.

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The foregoing biography was written by an appreciative friend of the late Dr. Napheys, and it might be suspected by some that the personal feelings of the writer had led him to place too high an estimate on the literary productions of the author and their value to the public. We have, therefore, concluded to append a selection from the very many testimonials to their worth received from the most eminent scholars, educators, divines and physicians of this country. We might also add almost innumerable press notices to the same effect, but we prefer to rest the evidence of the merits of Dr. Napheys' works on the personal testimony of great and good men.

THE PUBLISHERS.

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### PRESIDENTS OF COLLEGES.

*Prof. Noah Porter, D.D., LL.D., etc., President of Yale College,  
Connecticut.*

"I thank you for a copy of your work on the 'Transmission of Life.' There is in it much valuable information, carefully considered and industriously collected. The topics, of greatest delicacy, are treated with all possible refinement, while the much-needed warnings concerning the offences against nature which are practiced in ignorance by many, and with shamelessness by others, are faithfully administered."

*The late Mark Hopkins, D.D., LL.D., President of Williams College, Massachusetts.*

"Your book is conscientiously written, and will do good."

*Rev. Abner Jackson, D.D., LL.D., President of Trinity College,  
Hartford, Conn.*

"I have found your volume both interesting and instructive. It contains a large amount of useful information and suggestion in regard to human welfare and duty. The wide circulation of this work *cannot fail to do good.*"

*Rev. Wm. A. Stearns, D.D., LL.D., President of Amherst College,  
Massachusetts.*

"It is a difficult subject, which you have treated with propriety and success. The information which you give is of the greatest importance to the community, and especially to young men; and it is a thousand times better that they receive it from a work like yours, than be left to obtain it from sources of doubtful influence, or from bitter experience."

*Andrew D. White, LL.D., President of Cornell University, Ithaca,  
New York.*

"Your thoughtful and delicate presentation of the subject seems to me to merit great praise. That your discussion will do much good, I firmly believe."

*The late Rev. Cyrus Nutt, D.D., President of the Indiana State  
University.*

"I know of no work recently issued, calculated to do so much good as 'The Transmission of Life.' It contains information of the *utmost importance* to the individual and the race, and should have a wide circulation."

*Professor John S. Hart, LL.D., Principal State Normal Schools,  
Trenton, N. J.*

"I have been impressed with the care and discretion shown in the treatment of a very difficult subject."

*Rev. George W. Samson, D.D., President of Columbian College,  
Washington, D.C.*

"I have read 'The Transmission of Life' with care, as has my son, who is a practicing physician. I regard it as scholarly in its discussion, chaste in its expression, and unobjectionable in every respect."

*The late Rev. Samson Talbot, D.D., President of Denison University,  
Granville, Ohio.*

"I have read carefully 'The Transmission of Life.' The candor and learning of the author are very manifest; the information imparted is just that which the public most needs, and the moral tone of the work is altogether pure and elevating."

*Rev. W. T. Stott, Acting President of Franklin College, Indiana.*

"I know of no author who has succeeded so well in combining information with safe advice."

*Rev. Edward Cooke, D.D., Principal of Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Massachusetts.*

"My experience as an educator of young men has taught me the dangers of ignorance on the subjects herein treated. It seems to me Dr. Napheys has furnished just the information needed. The work must, if freely circulated, be of great benefit to health and morals."

*Rev. J. Avery Shepherd, D.D., Head Master St. Clement's Hall,  
Ellicott City, Md*

"The subjects treated of are not merely of great interest; they are of vital importance. My decided impression is that this work will do good."

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#### BISHOPS OF THE METHODIST AND PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCHES.

*Rt. Rev. Thomas March Clark, D.D., LL.D., Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Rhode Island.*

"I do not hesitate to say that I regard 'The Physical Life of Woman' as a most timely and valuable treatise on an important and delicate subject. I do not see a line to which the most fastidious could object, and I believe that its general circulation among the young would avert a vast amount of misery and sin."

*The late Bishop T. A. Morris, D.D., Methodist Episcopal Church, Ohio.*

"The subject of this work is one of intense interest, and the manner of treating it is very proper. Both will command public attention and approval. May the book find a hearty welcome among all the wise and good."

*The late Bishop Levi Scott, D.D., Methodist Episcopal Church, Delaware.*

"I partake largely of the favorable opinion of Dr. Todd, and wish your work great success."

*Rev. Isaac W. Wiley, D.D. (also M.D.), Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church.*

"To write such a book was a delicate matter. Yet Dr. Napheys has done it in a most successful, nay, even elegant, manner. There is nothing in the whole volume that could offend the most delicate sense of modesty, and nothing but a prudish squeamishness can object to its extensive circulation. In fact, we need just such a book. We believe it to be a very much needed work, and are convinced that it will do great good."

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#### EMINENT CLERGYMEN.

*The late Rev. John Todd, D.D., Author of "The Student's Manual," etc.*

"I see it to be a work immensely wanted, and think it will do much good. The subject, as related to family life and the condition of posterity, is a really awful one, and ought to be just as much more awful to young men, as it more deeply concerns their welfare. Give it as great a circulation as you can."

*Rev. Horace Bushnell, D.D., Hartford, Conn.*

"DR. NAPIEYS:—I am surprised at the extent and accuracy of your reading; the judiciousness of your positions and results; the clear, unequivocal, and yet delicate and appropriate, language used, and the amount of valuable information conveyed. It is, comparatively, a new but very important field,

and you have done well. The book cannot fail, I think, to do good, *great good*, if rightly heeded."

*Prof. Austin Phelps, D.D., Andover Theological Seminary, Mass.*

"I will willingly add my recommendation of the aim and execution of this work. It is chaste in expression, and abounds with sanitary advice. The book will assist fathers in timely instruction and warning to their sons."

*Rev. Leonard Bacon, D.D., New Haven, Conn.*

"I think you have treated very judiciously a difficult subject. My belief that some such work may be useful, is derived from the fact that the newspapers, in all parts of the country, overflow with advertisements addressed to the ignorance, the fears and the guilt of transgressors. If your book can diminish the sale of the nostrums offered in those advertisements—still more, if it can put any on their guard against the vices which make such advertisements worth paying for, you will have done a good work."

*Rev. H. Clay Trumbull, Late Missionary Secretary of the American Sunday-school Union, Editor of "The Sunday-school Times," Philadelphia, etc.*

"Your new work, on 'The Transmission of Life,' is one that every boy, and every man, every bachelor, parent or teacher, should have and read, and be grateful for. I have given sufficient study to the ways and needs of boys and young men, to appreciate, perhaps more fully than most, the importance of your theme. I have been much instructed by your writings, and I desire others to be benefited thereby."

*Rev. Henry A. Nelson, D.D., Late Professor of Systematic and Pastoral Theology, Lane Seminary, Cincinnati, Ohio.*

"You have treated an important subject with great wisdom and fidelity. I could wish every young person to receive *early*, the valuable—shall I not say necessary?—instruction which it contains."

*Rev. Horace Bushnell, D.D., The Eminent Theologian (Hartford, Connecticut).*

"I have read this book with interest. It seems to be well

studied, and is written with much delicacy and a careful respect, at all points, to the great interests of morality."

*Rev. George Alexander Crooke, D.D., D.C.L., Of Philadelphia, Pa.*

"I have carefully read this work, and must candidly say that I believe the information it contains is well calculated to lessen suffering and greatly benefit the human race."

*Rev. W. H. Murray, Of Boston, Author of Murray's "Adirondacks."*

"It is with sincere gratitude to the author that I give my endorsement to 'The Physical Life of Woman.' I should rejoice at its introduction among the people, until every wife and mother in the country, and the world, had a copy in her possession. The author deserves the thanks of every Christian and well-wisher of the race."

*From The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.*

"I have examined your volume, 'The Physical Life of Woman,' and desire to thank you for performing a work so long needed, so difficult to perform, and now, at length, so well done by you. Every mother should have this book, nor should she suffer a child to be married without the knowledge which this work contains. Thousands have dragged through miserable lives and many have perished, for want of such knowledge."

#### DISTINGUISHED PHYSICIANS.

*William A. Hammond, M.D., Late Surgeon-General U. S. Army,  
Professor in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, etc.*

"I have read with much interest and satisfaction 'The Physical Life of Woman.' I am glad that the subject has been taken up by one who shows himself so thoroughly qualified for the task, and I trust the instruction and advice contained in the volume will reach ev'ry woman in the land."

*Edwin M. Snow, M.D., Of Providence, R. I., President of the American Public Health Association, etc.*

"I have examined, with much interest, 'The Physical Life of Woman.' I am highly pleased with it. In my opinion, the wide circulation of the book will be a benefit to the community."

*Prof. Harvey L. Byrd, M.D., Of Medical Department of Washington University, Baltimore, Md.*

"I do not hesitate to commend this book most warmly to our countrywomen, for whose benefit it is intended. Also to the public, as supplying a want that has long been felt in this country. *Omne verum utile dictu*, and what can be more proper or more useful than that woman should be acquainted with the great laws of her being, and the duties for which she was created?"

*Prof. H. N. Eastman, M.D., Of Geneva (N. Y.) Medical College.*

"I unhesitatingly pronounce it an admirable work, and one especially needed at this time. The book is written in a chaste, elevated and vigorous style, is replete with instruction indispensable to the welfare and happiness of woman, and should be placed in the hands of every mature maiden and matron in our land."

*The Late S. W. Butler, M.D., Of Philadelphia, Editor of "The Medical and Surgical Reporter," etc.*

"I have examined it carefully, and find it a work at once thoroughly representing modern science, and eminently adapted for family instruction."

*Prof. John H. Griscom, M.D., Of New York City.*

"This work is very scientifically and intellectually written, and contains almost all the physiological and sanitary facts and directions needed for the preservation of the health and longevity of the female sex."

*Prof. Charles A. Lee, M.D., Of the University of Buffalo, N. Y.*

"From a careful perusal of your work, 'The Transmission of Life,' I find you have been remarkably successful in treating a delicate but most important subject. Your work, moreover, has a high moral and religious tone. I wish it a wide circulation."

*Prof. J. Ordronaux, LL.D., M.D., Of Columbia College, Washington, D. C.*

"Your work bears the impress of religious and scientific truth."

*Mrs. R. B. Gleason, M.D., Of the Elmira (N. Y.) Water Cure.*

"In this book Dr. Napheys has well met a real need of the age. It can be easily read, and perfectly understood, by those not familiar with medical terms. All matters of delicacy are treated with freedom, yet with a purity of thought and expression which is above criticism."

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#### CELEBRATED AUTHORS AND CRITICS.

*Dr. S. Austin Allibone, Author of "The Dictionary of Authors," etc.*

"The subjects discussed are of great importance; the literary style is excellent—terse, vigorous and perspicuous; the philanthropic zeal evinced is highly creditable to your heart; and the moral and religious spirit of the work is such as to give me a profound respect for the writer. The tendency of the book is good, and good only."

*Dr. R. Shelton Mackenzie, The Veteran Littérateur (Philadelphia).*

"Believing that Dr. Napheys' 'Physical Life of Woman,' giving a great deal of valuable information, explicitly and delicately, is likely to be of very essential importance to the fair sex; I cannot hesitate to express my favorable opinion of its object and execution."

*Lloyd P. Smith, Esq., Librarian of the Philadelphia Library (Founded by Benjamin Franklin).*

"Dr. Napheys' 'Physical Life of Woman' shows not only the scientific attainments of the author, but also a wide range of miscellaneous reading. The delicate subjects treated of are handled with a seriousness and earnestness becoming their importance, and the author's views are expressed in excellent English."

*Hon. T. W. Bicknell, State Supt. Public Instruction, Rhode Island.*

"I have read 'The Transmission of Life,' by Dr. Napheys, and find the volume filled with truths which every man should know, understand, and daily practice. I can but wish for this work an immediate and wide circulation among the young men of our State, for, by its teachings, the causes of education, religion, and the purest morality will be advanced."



*NOTICE.—As imperfect and garbled editions of some of Dr. Napheys' Works are in the market, purchasers should see that a Steel Portrait of the author is opposite the title page of each; otherwise the volume is unauthorized and incomplete.*

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